

## **ARTICLE X. DAMS AND IMPOUNDMENT DESIGN AND SPECIFICATIONS**

**Sec. 8-301. Rules for Dam Safety.** It shall be the responsibility of any person, corporation or other entity proposing to construct a dam in Fayette County to conform to the latest revision of Chapter 391-3-8 of the Rules of the Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division, titled Rules for Dam Safety. These rules are made a part of this ordinance by this reference. Additional requirements shall pertain to those structures proposed for construction but excluded from the Rules for Dam Safety.

**Sec. 8-302. Land Disturbance Permit Required.** Any property owner proposing to construct a dam, whether such dam is excluded from the Rules for Dam Safety or not, shall obtain a Land Disturbance Permit from the Fayette County Engineering Department in accordance with the County's Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance. If the proposed dam is under the supervision of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the owner shall nevertheless notify the County Engineer's office.

**Sec. 8-303. Access to Private Residence.** Any dam constructed to serve as access to a private residence shall have a top width of a minimum of twenty (20) feet unobstructed width of access with an all-weather driving surface capable of supporting the imposed loads of fire apparatus and having a minimum vertical clearance of thirteen (13) feet six (6) inches. (ref. SFPC 602.6).

**Sec. 8-304. Prohibitions.** No public roadway, right-of-way, and/or public utilities shall be located on any embankment or dam which permanently impounds a body of water.

**Sec. 8-305. Scope of Design.** Any proposal to construct a dam shall take into account any existing downstream public roads or private driveways or downstream roads which are a part of the proposed development, which if washed-out by the failure of the dam would isolate property owners, whether or not located within the proposed development, from access by emergency vehicles or to an adjacent public thoroughfare. Any proposed dam which makes such isolation probable in the case of failure shall not be approved, nor permits issued for construction.

**Sec. 8-306. Review Requirement.** Any dam design submitted to the Safe Dams Office under the requirements of the Rules for Safe Dams shall also be submitted to the County Engineer's Office for review.

**Sec. 8-307. Minimum Design Requirements; Submission of Documents; Maintenance Program; Time for Review.**

- (a) Although Category II dams, as defined in the Rules for Safe Dams, are required to be inventoried by the Safe Dams Office but are excluded from the design, permitting and maintenance regulations, such dams proposed for construction in unincorporated Fayette County must meet the following requirements before being permitted for construction.
  - (1) The dam shall be designed by a registered professional engineer licensed in the State of Georgia.
  - (2) The design documents submitted to the County Engineer for review shall include:
    - i) topographic drawings of the pond or lake site at a minimum scale of 1" = 100' with two foot contour intervals;
    - ii) plan, cross section and longitudinal drawings of the proposed dam showing the core, drains, cut-off trenches, spillways and the elevations of the 1, 5, 10, 25, 50, and 100-year storm elevations;
    - iii) hydrologic and hydraulic design calculations;
    - iv) specifications for construction;
    - v) detail drawings for appurtenances including principle and emergency spillways; and,
    - vi) a dambreak analysis determining the extent and height of the flood wave including the location of any downstream structures and property and the impact of failure on such property and structures.
  - (3) An access easement shall be provided from the nearest street, which is a part of the development, for maintenance and emergency access purposes.

- (4) A maintenance plan for the structure shall be provided which shall describe the parties responsible for maintenance and the maintenance program that is to be followed by such parties.
- (5) As built drawings of the dam, sealed by the design engineer, shall be submitted to the County Engineer prior to recording the Final Plat for the subdivision. Certification of construction to specified compaction requirements shall also be provided.
- (b) The County Engineer's Office shall have 30 calendar days to review the submitted documents and to either approve them or return them to the engineer with comments. If the review is not completed within this period, the documents will be considered approved.
- (c) Nothing contained in these requirements shall be constructed to relieve the design engineer from his/her responsibility to provide a design that is accurate, adequate, and acceptable according to generally accepted engineering practices.

**Sec. 8-308. Ownership of Dam.** Fayette County does not accept the ownership, maintenance or responsibility for any dam constructed under these regulations.

**Sec. 8-309. Effectivity Clause.** This article shall become effective sixty (60) days after the enactment date noted below [April 3, 1996].  
(Ord. No. 96-06A, 4-3-96)